

They Were Key Figures In Sensational Spy Cases



FAMOUS 'SPY' CASE — Transcripts of testimony taken during the Alger Hiss case are examined here by, from left, then-congressman Richard M. Nixon; House investigator Robert E. Stripling and J. Parnell Thomas, The Whitaker Chambers-Alger Hiss case and the "pumpkin papers" is one of the most famous spy cases on record. (AP photo)



MURDER OR SUICIDE? — At left standing is Gen. Krevitzki, former high-ranking Russian Army spy head, who defected to the U.S., shown as he was interviewed by, from left, Jerry Voorhes, Martin Dies and J. Parnell Thomas of the House Un-American Activities Committee. Later, the same day this picture was taken in 1946, Krevitzki was found dead in his hotel room. He had either committed suicide or was murdered. Thomas suspects Red espionage agents killed Krevitzki before he could tell too much.

Assault Is Seen Certain On U.S. Intelligence Agency

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experience placed him in a position where "I just happen to know" the efficiency of U. S. agencies.

Critics of U. S. intelligence operations, including the U2 flights, are "blithely closing their eyes when the other side of the coin is shown," Thomas said, "just as they closed their eyes when the (Un-American Activities Committee showed the extent of Soviet espionage in the United States and the part that Communist front groups and their members played in setting up these Red spy rings."

International spying is as old as Methuselah," Thomas said. He

recalled his World War I experience when his Army unit arrived on the front lines and discovered the Germans had put up a sign in "no-man's land" welcoming his division and saying goodbye to the unit they relieved.

He recalled hearings on Japanese spy activities prior to World War II, and produced photostats of letters from the Japanese consulate requesting detailed information on the Los Angeles water system. Japanese fishermen were furnished handbooks with descriptions and pictures of U. S. naval craft, he said, and at the time of Pearl Harbor the Japanese knew the location of virtually every major ship in the U. S. Navy.

Russians, through an "exchange" program, he continued, were able to assemble a "man-

ual for bombing and sabotaging the United States." This manual, he said, contained detailed descriptions of U. S. defense plans, bridges, rail and highway facilities.

This booklet, he said, was financed by American industry through paid ads. The industries, Thomas said, of course, thought they were expressing gratitude for business received under lend-lease and hoped to attract additional business.

"If it is possible for the Russians to express any mirth," Thomas continued, "one may well imagine how they roared at our dumbness."

Pointing to a talk by Rep. Karl Mundt, Thomas quoted him as saying, "Perhaps one of the big

reasons the Russians are not interested in arranging for an exchange of inspection is . . . that Russia is getting all the information it needs about our defenses over her and they are not interested now in making any concessions that might permit America to learn what they are doing over there."

Thomas said another of these fields open to the Russians is the U. S. patent office and the Reds have ordered as high as 60,000 patents in a single day. These orders didn't come through diplomatic channels, but from the Kremlin's stooges and fronts in the United States.

From this source the Kremlin obtained plans for airplanes, detecting devices for airplane propellers and wings, portable cranes, placement for machine guns, bullet resisting armor, method of making explosives, mine sweeper, ship torpedo protector, projectile, gyro-drift control, and other data.

Recalling some of the investigations of the House committee — Elizabeth Bentley, Alger Hiss, Harry Dexter White, Arthur Alexander Adams, Martin Kamen, John Hitchcock Chapin and others — Thomas pointed to the interlocking relationship of some of these individuals.

"Communist front organizations serve as a recruiting grounds in the United States for Soviet espionage," Thomas said.

"Just as the Russians use espionage as the basis for their war plans, so the United States must employ Central Intelligence Agency, the FBI and other agencies as our first line of defense," Thomas concluded.

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